

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 5795

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: CSCE: COMMUNIQUE WORD BARGAINING BETWEEN USSR AND CANADA

GENEVA FOR USDEL CSCE

1. ON NOVEMBER 29, CANADIAN PERMREP MENZIES DISTRIBUTED THE TEXT OF THE JOINT CANADA-USSR COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON THE OCCASION OF MITCHELL SHARP'S NOVEMBER 18-24 VISIT TO THE SOVIET UNION, AND HE EXPLAINED TO THE COUNCIL IN SOME DETAIL THE NEGOTIATIONS WHICH TOOK PLACE ON WORDING OF THE CSCE PARAGRAPH OF THE COMMUNIQUE.

2. IN SHORT, AFTER HARD BARGAINING, SOVIET INSISTENCE ON CONCLUSION OF CSCE "AT THE EARLIEST DATE" WAS COMPROMISED TO READ "AS SOON AS POSSIBLE;" CANADIAN INSISTENCE ON REFERENCE TO GOAL OF "HUMAN CONTACT AND DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION" CAME OUT AS "EXTENDING COOPERATION AND CONTACTS BETWEEN PEOPLE IN EUROPE;" AND SOVIET STRONG FEELING THAT CSCE FINAL STAGE SHOULD BE HELD "AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL," CAME OUT AS "A VERY HIGH LEVEL." THE LATTER BARGAIN DIDN'T HOLD UP WELL BECAUSE WHEN THE SOVIET UNION LATER PUBLISHED TRANSLATIONS OF THE CONFIDENTIAL

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RUSSIAN LANGUAGE VERSION OF THE COMMUNIQUE, THEY SLIPPED IN THE "HIGHEST LEVEL" WORDING.

2. MENZIES WISHED ALLIES TO KNOW THE FACTS AND SOME BACK-

GROUND AND TO HAVE SOME IDEA AS TO HOW TENACIOUSLY SOVIETS
ADHERE TO THEIR INTERPRETATION OF THESE THREE QUESTIONS.
RUMSFELD

CONFIDENTIAL

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